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Library Trustee Minutes 09/09/2009

Robbins Library Board of Trustees
September 9, 2009

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM. Attending were trustees Katharine Fennelly, Kathryn Gandek-Tighe, Barbara Muldoon, Frank Murphy, Brigid Kennedy-Pfister and Joyce Radochia. Heather Calvin was absent. Also attending was Library Director Maryellen Loud.

Margaret Spengler Memorial Committee

Donald Marquis and Harry McCabe reported on the plans to honor Peg Spengler. A plaque is currently being made. The proposed location will be in Town Hall. In addition, discussions are underway to rename Library Way as Peg Spengler Way.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were amended to include Heather Calvin in the attendees. Mr. Murphy moved to accept the minutes as amended. Ms. Muldoon seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Communications

The conference schedule for the Annual Joint Conference of Friends of Libraries and Massachusetts Library Trustees was distributed.

A patron has offered to buy a pass to Davis Farmland for the Library. Discussion comprised of offering a pass to a for-profit institution, the restrictions to the pass and the financial cost versus value. More information about the pass program will be gathered and discussed with the donor to be sure she is interested in going ahead with the pass with its restrictions.

Community Time

No members of the community were present

Director's Report

Ms. Loud reported that the Town Manager approved filling the vacant Assistant Director position. Due to budget constraints this position will now include the duties of the Fox Branch Librarian as well as technology and administrative responsibilities.

Approval of Trustee Goals and Timeline

Ms. Muldoon moved that the Goals and Objectives FY 2010 be accepted as proposed and Ms. Radochia seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Approval of Long Range Plan (Mission, Vision, Goals and Objectives)

A final draft of the vision statement was reviewed and accepted as:

The Robbins Library strives to be the center of the Arlington Community. The library will use:

- Collections, services, technological resources and programs that respond to community members'

needs

- Strategic partnerships with community organizations and town offices to expand the reach of the library to all ages and groups
- Effective promotion of library services and programs to increase library awareness in the community and to support lifelong learning
- Modern library spaces that balance the needs of traditional and contemporary library users.

Several drafts of mission statements were reviewed. The final statement was:

The Robbins Library is a vital community center that connects people with traditional and technological resources for life-long learning, intellectual pursuits and leisure. The library responds to citizens' needs with services and activities in a welcoming setting built on a history of free and equal access to information for all Arlington residents.

The Goals, Objective and Activities were reviewed in draft form. The trustees supported the goals, objectives and activities drawn up by the consultant and Ms. Loud.

Mr. Murphy moved to accept the documents. Ms. Kennedy-Pfister seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Final Approval of Trust Fund Requests

Ms. Muldoon presented changes to the allocations to meet requests from the Trust funds.

The Case Fund will have \$2500 to be spent.

The Fred Thompson Fund will have \$3000 spent.

\$4059 will be budgeted for Fundraising.

Ms. Muldoon made the motion to accept. Mr. Murphy seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.

A letter will be sent by Ms. Loud to the donors of the Russell Fund to inform them of changes to Massachusetts state law concerning disbursement of trust money.

Schedule of Holiday Closings – 2010

The proposed closings for holidays for the coming year were presented by Ms. Loud, particularly those requiring a vote of trustees. Ms. Radochia moved that the calendar be accepted. Mr. Murphy seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Preliminary Discussion of FY2010 Budget Requests

Ms. Loud discussed the potential implications of expected budget shortfalls.

Town Day

Trustee schedule for Town Day was reviewed.

Community Read

The trustees community read discussion will be at the November meeting.

Other

The Treasurer will attend the October Trustees meeting. Topics to discuss were suggested.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:30. Next meeting is Tuesday, October 13th.